

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

EP2004/010599

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B01D15/08 G01N30/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01D G01N B01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 224 760 B1 (DAVIES JOHN ET AL) 1 May 2001 (2001-05-01) the whole document	1-3,5,6
X	US 4 894 152 A (COLVIN, JR. ET AL) 16 January 1990 (1990-01-16) the whole document	1-3,5,6

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

.../EP2004/010599

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6224760	B1	01-05-2001	AU	8048398 A	21-12-1998
			EP	0993329 A1	19-04-2000
			FR	2764204 A1	11-12-1998
			GB	2325868 A	09-12-1998
			JP	2002504015 T	05-02-2002
			WO	9855198 A1	10-12-1998
<hr/>					
US 4894152	A	16-01-1990	NONE		
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0322144.7  
Claims searched: 1-6

Examiner: Mike Leaning  
Date of search: 6 February 2004

## Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
A		WO 2003/005018 A1 (AMERSHAM BIOSCIENCES AB) Please see figure 1 and the associated parts of the description.
A		US 6224760 B1 (DAVIES et al.) Please see figures 2&3 and the description at column 3 lines 56-61. Prior device by the current applicants disclosing channels formed between first and second sets of ribs.
A		US 2002/0125181 A1 (PICHL et al.) Please see figure 1, noting ribs 13.
A		US 4894152 (COLVIN, Jr et al.) Please see figure 2. A chromatography column fluid distribution system comprising a plate with several sets of channels carved therein.
A		US 4673507 (BROWN) Please see figure 3b and column 6 lines 34-40. A chromatography column fluid distribution system having radial 'channels' 88 defined by a series of annular ribs.

### Categories:

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>w</sup>:

B1H

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

B01D; G01N

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO, TXTUS0, TXTUS1, TXTUS2, TXTUS3, TXTEP1, TXTGB1, TXTWO1.